ACAA, wherein each A and C is as independently defined in claim 1;

Gly_p, wherein p is an integer of from 0 to 10; and

Ala_q, wherein q is an integer of from 0 to 10.

5. (Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein R^1-R^2 or R^3, or both, do not comprise an amino acid selected from the group consisting of A, B and C as defined in claim 1.

6. (Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein motifs (A-C-B-A) are present in said peptide in a greater amount than motifs (A-B-C-A).

8. (Twice amended) The peptide BP 1, having SEQ ID NO: 1.

9. (Twice amended) The peptide BP 2, having SEQ ID NO: 2.

10. (Twice amended) The peptide BP 2.3, having SEQ ID NO: 3.

11. (Twice amended) The peptide BP 2.4, having SEQ ID NO: 4.

12. (Twice amended) The peptide BP 2.5, having SEQ ID NO: 5.

13. (Twice Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is coupled to a non-peptide carrier, radioactive tag or fluorescent label.

14. (Amended) A fusion peptide comprising the peptide of claim 1 coupled to a second peptide selected from the group consisting of peptide carriers and diagnostic peptides.

15. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim 1 as active component for treating topical and systemic microbial or parasite infection, or both, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in a pharmaceutically acceptable dosage form.

$$(R^1\text{-}R^2)_x\text{-A-B-(A-B-C-A)}_m\text{-(C)}_n\text{-}(R^3)_y \qquad (1)$$

wherein

R^1, R^2, and R^3 each are an amino acid,

x is an integer ≥ 0,

y is an integer ≥ 0,

each A is an amino acid independently selected from the group consisting of Lys, Arg and His,

each B is an amino acid independently selected from the group consisting of Phe, Trp and Tyr,

each C is an amino acid independently selected from the group consisting of Leu, Ile, Val and Ala,

m is an integer of from 2 to 8,

n is an integer of from 1 to 3, and

wherein one or more of the sequence motifs (A-B-C-A) may have the retro orientation (A-C-B-A).

2. (Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein x and y are each an integer of from 0 to 15.

3. (Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein x and y are each an integer of from 1 to 10.

4. (Amended) The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:

21. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a mixture of at least two peptides according to claim 1 as active components for treating topical and systemic microbial or parasite infections, or both, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in a pharmaceutically acceptable dosage form.

22. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, further comprising an antibiotic selected from the group consisting of penicillins, cephalosporins, ß-lactams, aminoglycosides, quinolones, tetracyclines, macrolides, glycopeptides or lipopeptides, hydrophobic antibiotics, ribosome inhibitors or antibiotics having a large lipid-like lactone ring.

~~23.~~ 21. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim ~~15~~ 13, wherein the infection is caused by a parasite.

28. (Amended) A method for treatment of microbial infection in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 1.

~~29.~~ 24. (Amended) The method according to claim ~~28~~, wherein said treatment is applied after trauma or suspected infection has occurred.

Please add the following new claims:

40. A pharmaceutical composition for treating bacterial inflammation comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a purified peptide according to claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

41. A pharmaceutical composition for treating bacterial septic shock comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier in a pharmaceutically acceptable dosage form.

42. The purified peptide according to claim 1, wherein x and y are each 0.

43. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23, wherein said parasite is selected from the group consisting of a parasite causing malaria and a parasite causing Trypanosomiosis.

44. A method for treatment of microbial infection in a human, comprising administering to a human in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a peptide according to claim 1.

45. A method for inhibiting the growth of a microbe comprising the step of contacting a microbe with an effective amount of a purified peptide according to claim 1.

46. A method for inhibiting the growth of a Gram-negative bacterium comprising the step of contacting a Gram-negative bacterium with an effective amount of a purified peptide according to claim 1.

47. A method for inhibiting the growth of a Gram-positive bacterium comprising the step of contacting a Gram-positive bacterium with an effective amount of a purified peptide according to claim 1.